

REMARKS

Initially, in the Office Action dated April 20, 2005, the Examiner rejects claims 26 and 36 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,215,505 (Minami). Claims 17-25, 27-35 and 37-44 are allowed.

By the present response, Applicants have canceled claims 26 and 36 without disclaimer. Claims 17-25, 27-35 and 37-44 remain pending in the present application.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication that claims 17-25, 27-35 and 37-44 are allowed.

35 U.S.C. §102 Rejections

Claims 26 and 36 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Minami. Applicants have canceled these claims, therefore, rendering these rejections moot.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, only allowed claims 17-25, 27-35 and 37-44 are pending in the present application. Accordingly, early allowance of such claims is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment of fees, to the deposit account of Mattingly, Stanger & Malur, P.C., Deposit Account No. 50-1417 (referencing attorney docket no. 500.38975X00).

Respectfully submitted,

MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C.



Frederick D. Bailey
Registration No. 42,282

FDB/sdb
(703) 684-1120